



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

FBIS-AFR-90-124
Wednesday
27 June 1990

Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

FBIS-AFR-90-124

CONTENTS

27 June 1990

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

Joint Effort Proposed for Doe's Resignation [AFP]	1
OAU Secretary General on Multiparty System [KNA]	1

CENTRAL AFRICA

Zaire

Commission Reports on Lubumbashi Deaths [AZAP]	2
* Mobutu's 'Double Face' Policy Explained [Brussels LE SOIR 25 May]	5
* Mobutu's Diverse Security Apparatus Detailed [Brussels LE SOIR 25 May]	6
* Violent Incidents, Students' Massacre Described [Brussels LE SOIR 25 May]	6

WEST AFRICA

Liberia

Woewiyu Says Doe Must Leave, War To Continue [BBC]	8
Government Team Said 'Plotting' Next Move [AFP]	8
More Than 4,000 Seek Shelter at VOA Compound [AFP]	9
'March for Peace' Reported in Monrovia 26 June [BBC]	9
Unity Party Executive Calls for Resignation [Monrovia Radio ELWA]	10
Liberian Action Party's Demands [AFP]	10
Official 'Declines Comment' on NPFL Absence [Freetown Radio]	10
Group To Organize Peace March 27 June [Monrovia Radio ELWA]	10
Doe Endorses Execution Recommendation for Soldier [Monrovia Radio ELWA]	11
Further on March, Soldier Execution [AFP]	12
Toops Open Fire on Demonstrators [AFP]	12
Christian, Muslim Groups Issue Joint Statement [Monrovia Radio ELWA]	12
ECOWAS Delegation Arrives With Message [Monrovia Radio ELWA]	13
Operations Reportedly Suspended at Bong Mines [AFP]	13

Nigeria

* Queuing Procedure in Elections Criticized [THE GUARDIAN 19 May]	13
* Government To Review National Guard Degree [THE GUARDIAN 20 May]	14

Joint Effort Proposed for Doe's Resignation

*AB2606164590 Paris AFP in French 1550 GMT
26 Jun 90*

[Text] Lome, 26 Jun (AFP)—Sierra Leone has proposed that Nigeria, Guinea, and Togo jointly intervene to obtain Liberian President Samuel Doe's resignation. This was announced today by Sierra Leones' ambassador to Togo, Mr. Umaru Wurie.

Sierra Leones' president, Joseph Momoh, has addressed a message in this regard to the Togolese president, Gnassingbe Eyadema, the ambassador stated.

The diplomat told the press that the Freetown negotiations between the Liberian Government and the rebels, under the auspices of the Liberian churches "are blocked because the government delegation has refused to negotiate on President Doe's resignation," as requested by the rebels.

"In view of the large number of lives being lost daily, President Momoh hopes for a joint intervention" by Presidents Eyadema, Ibrahim Babangida (Nigeria), and Lansana Conte (Guinea), and he has proposed a "meeting for a joint action" by them to convince President Doe to "reconsider his position" and "eventually tender his resignation in order to save lives and stop the hostilities," according to the ambassador.

OAU Secretary General on Multiparty System

*EA2406090690 Nairobi KNA in English 1530 GMT
23 Jun 90*

[Text] Nairobi, 23 June (KNA)—The OAU secretary-general, Mr Salim Ahmed Salim, said today that African countries should not be pressurised by the countries in the developed world to adopt the multi-party form of government as a prerequisite for aid from those countries. Mr Salim said that adoption of multi-parties in Africa was not a panacea in the continent, adding that what ultimately mattered was democracy among African countries and respect for basic human rights and freedoms.

Mr Salim, who was speaking at the Jomo Kenyatta Airport after making a one-day stopover in the country

from the African countries [as received], said that the changes in Eastern Europe should not set formulas for change in Africa. He said that any attempt to give a formula for African governments could be counter-productive, arguing that each country should be allowed to have a free hand on what system it wished to adopt vis a vis the levels of development in each country.

Mr Salim, who is on his way to attend Madagascar's 13th independence anniversary, said that Africa was going through a socio-economic crisis, adding that priorities for the continent were to uplift the livelihood of the people. He said that all African leaders should make concerted efforts to collectively face the problems emanating from the changing global issues.

He said that the agenda for Africa should not be dictated by external forces, adding that the process of democracy in Africa did not start in Europe. He further said that Africa will continue to be in good relations with Eastern Europe, charging however that those changes in the European region did not have a direct bearing with Africa.

Lauding Kenya for her efforts to create harmony in the continent through President Moi, the secretary-general said that Africa will not be complacent until the whole region was liberated.

On the socio-economic situation, the OAU boss said that it was sad as Africa continued to be a net importer of capital goods while only acting as a source for raw materials. He said that African leaders should prepare for the 1990's by evolving a systematic regional strategy for industrialisation. He said that the current situation where Africa imported about 25 percent of her food requirements should be changed.

On the issue of refugees, Salim lamented that Africa had the distinction of having more than 5,000,000 refugees and more than 12,000,000 displaced persons, saying that his office had prepared a report of the refugee issue to be tabled and discussed during the council of ministers (ed: meeting) in Addis Ababa. He said that he would like to see an OAU which played a more active role in refugee issues and not the current trend where the organisation was at the peripherals on the issue. He, however, said that the international community had a collective role to play to put the refugee crisis to an end.

Zaire

Commission Reports on Lubumbashi Deaths

1B2306154490 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1059 GMT
19 Jun 90

[Text] Kinshasa, 19 Jun (AZAP)—The Legislative Council held a plenary session yesterday under the chairmanship of Speaker Anzuluni Bembe to examine the reports by the six parliamentary investigation commissions set up to shed light on the recent incidents on the campuses in Lubumbashi, Kisangani, and Kinshasa and in the Higher Institutions in Bukavu, Mbuji-Mayi, Mbanza-Ngungu, and Kinshasa.

During the session, priority attention was given to the report prepared by the investigation commission on the Lubumbashi incidents. Following more than seven hours of deliberations, suggestions and recommendations were made and the conclusion of the commission was adopted after amendments. A squad of masked men did operate on the night of 11 May at Lubumbashi campus where they caused terror and desolation among students from 2330 to 0430. That is the commission's finding.

On the number of casualties in the incidents, the commission indicated that 29 students were wounded, 16 of whom were admitted to various health centers in Lubumbashi where the 13 others were treated as outpatients. Of the 16 hospitalized, one has died, five have been discharged, two are being treated in South Africa, and eight are still in Lubumbashi clinics. The trauma for which these students have received treatment revealed either wounds, fractures of the skull, burns, or contusions.

To determine the death toll, the assemblymen said in their reports that they interrogated the Lubumbashi archbishop, Msgr. Kabange; several priests and religious leaders; a few students still in Lubumbashi, most of them having been repatriated to their hometowns on the order of the governor; the Belgian consul general, who confirmed the figure of 12 dead he had previously announced; zonal authorities; hospital and clinic officials; lecturers; and support personnel at the various emergency wards and mortuaries of the University Teaching Hospitals.

After pointing out that the U.S. consul general had refused to speak, the members of the commission said in the report that their investigations were inconclusive with regard to the question of the death toll. In this connection, the commission said the inquiry was still open and charged each member of parliament to continue investigations in their respective constituencies and collect information on any cases of student deaths or of students who have not returned to their families. In addition, an appeal was made to anyone with reliable information in this connection to pass them on to the parliament or to local authorities.

According to the findings of the commission, the squad was formed locally and the attacks on the campus had

been decided and prepared at a meeting on security matters held on Thursday, 11 May, under the chairmanship of Shaba Governor Koyagialo Gbase te Gerengbo. The meeting was attended by the top officials of the security forces in Lubumbashi as well as the rector of the local university, Aloni Kamanda.

According to investigation commission spokesman MP Isalu Isangi, who read the report, the operation was planned to avenge the three student informers who had been molested and beaten to death by their colleagues on the night of 9 May.

The Course of Events as Reconstructed by the Commission

Going over the facts established after cross-checking information collated during the investigations, the spokesman recounted the events in their chronological order: On the night of 9 May, the students of Lubumbashi University arrested three of their colleagues found to be "police informers" and tried them on charges of "treason." After obtaining confessions from the three students, who acknowledged working for the security service and being responsible for the abduction of some of their colleagues, the makeshift tribunal, consisting of a president and two assessors, sentenced the three accused to death. As a result, the three students—Yakoto, Mange, and Zongia—were molested, beaten, thrown into a hole four and a half meters deep, and stoned to death.

On the morning of 10 May, on the orders of the regional governor who was previously informed of the facts, security forces entered the campus to set free the three unfortunate students. The governor also ordered that all the entrances to the campus be cordoned off by soldiers to prevent people from entering or exiting. On 11 May, the regional head of the National Immigration Agency [ANI], Gata Lezo, submitted to the regional governor a report with concrete proposals to the authorities on handling this situation on the campus because the hunt for students from Equateur, especially Ngbandi, was continuing. The brains behind these disorders was a student called Mwela. Because of the seriousness of the situation, Mr. Gata thought it would be convenient to issue a warrant to Civil Guards to search this student's room. This mission, according to the report, should not be delayed.

It was on the basis of this report that in the afternoon of Thursday, 11 May, Governor Koyagialo convened a meeting which was attended by Colonel Likiyo, the commander of the military administrative area; Mr. Uba, the director of the National Documentation Agency [AND]; the deputy regional governor; the regional director; Major Lokombe, the commander of the Civil Guards; Gata Lezo, the ANI regional director; and the chancellor of the university and his secretary general for academics.

At this meeting, the parliamentary investigations commission report revealed among other things that it was decided to seal off the campus entrances and cut the electricity supply to the campus. The governor was to personally

instruct the National Electricity Corporation (SNEL) engineer to cut the electricity at the scheduled time.

On this same day, 11 May, Mr. Gata, the ANI regional director, was to buy [word indistinct] in one of the shops in town when the electricity supply was cut. When the students' leader informed Rector Aloni Kamanda about rumors of a commando attack on the campus, he was not very concerned. Nor was he any more concerned when, at about 2200, the campus electrician informed him that the outage was at the SNEL power station which had been declared out of bounds by Civil Guard elements.

At 2330 the assailants erupted onto the campus where they operated until 0430. The parliamentary investigation commission report also stressed the passive attitude of security forces at the various campus entrances. Their action was limited to picking up wounded students who were fleeing from the campus and sending them to the hospital.

The heads of the security forces stated that they had not received any orders from the governor to intervene, the report stressed.

It was only on 12 May at 0500 that the security services entered the campus to assist the wounded with an ambulance. As early as 0600, fleeing students left the campus buildings in a climate of panic and fear.

The Snags

Explaining the lack of precise figures on the number killed, the parliamentary report pinpointed a series of factors that made the task of the investigators difficult, notably the climate of fear and trauma which prevailed in Lubumbashi, still in a state of shock, and the fact that this attack was planned and premeditated. The authors had time to mix up the clues if possible. The students were repatriated to their places of origin, thus making counting the student population impossible. In addition, the parliamentary commission arrived on the scene late, 18 days after the tragedy.

Furthermore, the commission said at the end of its report that it had gone to Kipushi and Likasi to visit [name indistinct] and the abandoned mines of Lukuni where, according to rumors, the bodies of those killed had been buried, but found no proof, despite digging thoroughly.

The Accounting

The commission of investigation brought charges against the following persons for the facts below:

1. Elonga Kamba, chief engineer at SNEL: Obstructing the investigation, deliberately cutting the electricity supply, complicity in the unfortunate incidents.

2. Bongo Ngandu, engineer and director of the rolling mill and cable-manufacturing plant at the Gecamines: Accommodated, hid, and organized the flight of citizen Gere, still wanted for being the brains behind the assault,

complicity in the unfortunate incidents, obstructing the investigations and participating in secret meetings to prepare the assault.

3. Mr. Ndotoba, managing director of RENAPI and REGED [expansions unknown] in Shaba: Organized and held respectively on 10 and 11 May in his residence a secret meeting to prepare for the assault, and complicity in the unfortunate incidents.

4. Aloni Kamanda, chancellor of the University of Lubumbashi [Unilu]: Participated in the preparatory meeting for the assault, complicity in the incidents, treated the information given him concerning the imminent commando attack as routine and ignored it, failed to assist persons in mortal danger, gave his backing to a detention house or dungeon popularly called the meditation house.

5. Security Officer Maku Ga: Prevented the restoration of electricity in the university residences.

6. Major Lokombe, commander of the Civil Guards: Took part in the preparatory meeting for the assault, ordered citizen Makunra to watch the SNEL power station and prevent the restoration of electricity on the campus line until daybreak, gave no assistance to persons in danger.

7. Captain Bongonda, commander of the Mobile Brigade: Failed to make an objective and sincere report to his seniors on the incidents on the campus, failed to assist persons in mortal danger, and complicity in the incidents on the campus.

8. Colonel Lokyo, commanding officer of the Lubumbashi military region: Failure to assist a person in danger; took part in the preliminary meeting during which it was decided to block the campus and cut the electricity supply, which enabled the commandos to operate quietly, was an accomplice in the unfortunate incidents.

9. Mr. Uba, managing director of the National Documentation Agency (AND)/Shaba: Took part in the preliminary meeting during which the aggression against the students was planned, wrote a forged report to headquarters, obstructed investigations, and was an accomplice in the unfortunate incidents.

10. Mr. Gata, managing director of the National Immigration Agency (ANI): Made false statement and obstructed the investigation, harbored and fanned tribal hatred, incited local officials to carry out acts of revenge, supplied equipment, masks, and hoods that were used during the aggression, proposed the closure of the campus and held preliminary meetings to launch the aggression.

11. Koyagialo Ngbase Te Gerengbo, governor of Shaba Province: Did not investigate, apprehend, and prosecute those responsible for the incidents of nights of 9 and 11 May, obstructed the investigation process, forced Engineer Elonga to cut the electricity supply in the night of 11 May, agreed to the revenge plan proposed by Mr. Gata, the managing director of ANI/Shaba, let the culprits and witnesses get away by evacuating and sending students to

their region of origin, did not give the order to the security forces to [words indistinct] the incidents that took place on 9 and 10 May, closed down the university without order from the highest authorities.

Engineer Elonga of the National Electricity Company, the managing director of the GECAMINES; Lieutenant Makungu of the Civil Guard; Major Lokombe of the Civil Guard; Mr. Aloni, the chancellor of the University; and Captain Bongonda, have already been arrested.

A requisition was introduced to investigate the charges against Governor Koyagialo, Colonel Lokiyo, the ANI and AND managing directors, Messrs Gata and Uba, all of whom enjoy from judicial privileges due to their functions. [Words indistinct] lectures at the Lubumbashi University (?could resume) only if the infrastructures destroyed during the incidents, were totally rehabilitated.

General Debate

After the presentation of the report by the parliamentarians, more than 50 peoples commissioners of the 95 present, asked for further clarification of the document and the events that occurred at the Lubumbashi University campus. Most of the speakers asked for the exact number of victims, the circumstances that led to the incidents, the responsibility of the transition government, the extent of the responsibility of the security forces, where the commandos came from, and what sanctions would be taken against anyone involved in the incidents.

Some of the peoples commissioners demanded the arrest and resignation of members of the transition government because the report presented by the deputy first state commissioner to the National Assembly did not reflect the true facts. Others, talking about the Regional Security Council meeting during which the decision to cut the electricity supply on the campus was made, deplored the fact that the governor, who is from Equateur Province, was advised only by people from that region. Questions were asked about the communication equipment and weapons found in the room of students who were accused of being traitors and molested by their colleagues on 10 May.

The peoples commissioners condemned the setting up by the students of an illegal tribunal which sentenced the traitors to death, the spirit of revenge, the regional dissension among the students, and the silence of the media on these events. The commissioners also asked the investigation commission if the figure of 22 student deaths reported by the Belgian consul in Lubumbashi was accurate.

The parliamentary commission established that the masks and hoods used by the commandos in Lubumbashi were purchased by the ANI/Shaba managing director. A commissioner wanted to know if the hoods and masks discovered at the residence of a teacher and seized by the Regional Assembly and kept at [words indistinct] were the same ones as those purchased by the ANI managing director. Another commissioner asked

about the extent of the responsibility of the top-ranking officials of the security forces and protested the transfer of Governor Koyagialo to Nord-Kivu because of his involvement in the Lubumbashi incidents. One participant called for the nonpoliticization of the youth as soon as possible in order to prevent student disturbances. The politicization of students is absolutely useless because, political parties will try to enroll them and sow the seeds of dissension among them right from the beginning.

The resumption of classes will enable a head count of the students registered at the university, facilitate the evaluation of the ones who are absent, and constitute the best way to learn the exact figure of those killed. The participant expressed surprise with the attitude of Col. Lokiyo, commanding officer of the 9th Military Region (Shaba), who refused to send troops to the Lubumbashi University campus when the commando was operating under the pretext that he did not receive any orders from his commanding officers. Another commissioner wanted to know what attitude should be adopted by a soldier on duty who confronted a dangerous situation. Questions were asked [words indistinct] on the names of students accused of being traitors who were involved in the Lubumbashi incidents and the outcome of the meetings held by the Commission with the Shaba Regional Assembly. All the reports from Lubumbashi established that the campus was surrounded by security forces a few days before the incidents. Therefore, a people's commissioner wanted to know how the commandos could enter the campus and operate without the complicity of the security forces.

Three people's commissioners said they regretted that the American consul in Lubumbashi had refused to testify before the parliamentary commission. The people's commissioners will continue their deliberations today at the Palace of the Nation, hearing and adopting the reports of the other five commissions of inquiry.

Executive Council's Reaction

After considering the conclusions of the parliamentary commission of inquiry into the events at the Lubumbashi campus, the Executive Council has decided to suspend from their functions and bring to court all those involved in this affair. According to the statement of Ngongo Kamanda, the Executive Council's spokesman, the civilian authorities involved are Koyangialo Ngbase Te Gerengbo, former Shaba governor; Gata Lebo Kete, regional executive director of the National Immigration Agency, ANI; Mr. Uba, executive director of the National Documentation Agency, AND/Shaba; Aloni Kamanda, president of the Lubumbashi University; Mr. Ngbotoba, regional manager of Renapi [expansion unknown]; and Mr. Bgaba, regional director of primary, secondary, and vocational education; Bongo Nganzo, engineer and director of the rolling mills and cable-manufacturing plants of the General Quarries and Mines Company, GECMINES; Elonga Nkanda, chief engineer at the National Electricity Company.

The military and paramilitary officials affected by these measures are: Colonel Lokiyo, commander of the Lubumbashi Military Zone; Major Lokombe, commander of the Civil Guard; Captain Ungongonda, commander of the mobile brigade; and Officer DT [word indistinct] Makunga of the Civil Guard.

The Executive Council, which pointed out "the regional nature" of the events of the Lubumbashi University campus, believes the responsibilities should be established at the level of the Shaba regional authorities. They stress that the transitional government, whose mission is to oversee the birth of the Third Republic in serenity and clear conditions, has, in agreement with the president of the republic and in view of the conclusion of the parliamentary investigations, taken these measures to shed light on these incidents in accordance with the Republic's laws.

The transitional government furthermore warns that if during the investigations, new responsibilities happen to be established, it would take appropriate measures.

One parliamentarian asked the degree of involvement of the top officials of the national security service in this affair. He also reacted against the transfer to Nord-Kivu of Governor Koyagialo, who was deeply involved in the events. Another representative called for keeping the youth out of politics from now on to prevent any useless student unrest when the political parties, once they are founded, seek to sow discord among them.

The resumption of lectures with the view of taking a head count of the 11,000 students registered at the Lubumbashi University would help establish the number of absent students and thus help to determine, if possible, the exact number of deaths.

A people's commissioner expressed surprise at the behavior of Col. Lokiyo, commander of the 9th Military Zone, Shaba, who refused to dispatch troops to the Lubumbashi University campus when the commandos were operating because, as he said, he did not receive any orders from his superiors. The commissioner then tried to determine the exact attitude of a patrolling soldier confronted with danger. Continuing with their questions to the commission of inquiry, many parliamentarians wanted to know the names of the other "informers" involved in these sad events and the results of the contacts that this commission held with the Shaba Regional Assembly.

All the reports on how the Lubumbashi events occurred established that the campus was actually encircled by the security forces a few days before the incident. A people's commissioner asked how the commandos were able to enter without the complicity of the same security forces.

* Mobutu's 'Double Face' Policy Explained

90AF0223C Brussels LE SOIR in French 25 May 90 p 6

[Commentary by Colette Braeckman: "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde: the Two Faces of a Policy"]

[Text] How could the democratic promise that accompanied the birth of the Third Republic on 24 April have turned so quickly into repression on campuses and result in the Lubumbashi massacres?

The students' bitterness undoubtedly arises from the fact that what was granted in April was truly withdrawn in large part on 4 May when President Mobutu stated that until further notice no other party save the People's Movement of the Revolution (MPR) was as yet authorized and that the first real deadline remained the 1991 presidential elections, in which he, of course, intended to run. Disappointment and bitterness lay at the heart of the students' demonstrations. But their anger was provoked by the discovery of "informers" in their midst. It was a sort of fifth column, armed, equipped, and encouraged from very high up. It would be wrong to say that the students targeted certain individuals because of ethnic criteria: those who were targeted were the children of the nomenclature and they were selected on the basis of their privileges and their roles and not on the basis of their background. But it is true, since this has been the policy of the "Mobutu years," that natives of the Equatorial Province make up the majority of the privileged class, and that the harshness of the treatment meted out to the "informers" should also make us shudder. As regards the repression, it was carefully targeted; everything was done so as to give the appearance of a "tribalization" of the interfactional struggles and mask the commandos' operation which, carried out at night by men in civilian clothing, could have looked like a settling of scores among students. In fact, highlighting this ethnic factor indirectly serves the president, who might find arguments for seeming once again to be the symbol of national unity. But for the future, the different treatment accorded natives of the Equatorial Province carries with it great danger and, as early as the beginning of this year, a spokesman for the Ngbandi community attempted to draw the president's attention to the risks this incurred.

Should we interpret the Lubumbashi repression as a bloody episode or as a deliberate terror operation? Both theories are unsettling. The first theory would have it that, to avenge his daughter or government collaborators, Mr. Baramoto was able to act alone. So the president might no longer have sufficient authority to keep his "personal guard" in check! Such a supposition is unrealistic as long as the Special Presidential Division (DSP) by statute and function remains close to the president and takes its orders from him alone. The second theory suggests a policy in which openness and the bloodiest repression are combined. Everything is happening as if the president, and only the president, were deciding the length and the steps in the "democratization" process begun by him, and without giving the people the freedom to open things up even more. But from Gabon to the Ivory Coast we have seen that the people have gone much beyond the controlled freedoms granted them, and the lure is the same in Zaire. Should we thus interpret the Lubumbashi events as a stark warning, so fear will once again dissuade those who have ambition, those who are insolent, and those who dare to dare?

* Mobutu's Diverse Security Apparatus Detailed

90AF0223B Brussels LE SOIR in French 25 May 90 p 6

[Article by Colette Braeckman: "The 'Who's Who' of Security"]

[Text] If President Mobutu has remained in power for a quarter of a century, making him, together with Houphouet-Boigny of the Ivory Coast, the doyen of African heads of state, he owes this in large measure to his security forces. These forces are numerous and they are everywhere.

The best known force, and the one now most notorious, is the Special Presidential Division (DSP). The mission of this elite force, trained by the Israelis, is the protection of the president. Its men are all the more faithful to the head of state since they, like him, are originally from the Equatorial Province and belong to the Ngbandi tribe. Some of them do not even speak Lingala and are regarded as foreigners, particularly in Kinshasa. The DSP's allegiance is all the more assured, in contrast to other soldiers, by the fact that its commandos are well paid. The head of the DSP is General Nzimbi, a relative of the president's.

A second force that is both well-known and feared, is the civil guard headed by General Kpama Baramoto whose precise name is the "General Elite Peace Force." This force was established in 1985-86 with the support of the FRG, and Egypt is said to have helped train its men, who can be regarded as police officers.

The other security forces are the Military Action and Intelligence Service (SARM), the National Documentation Agency (AND), and the National Immigration Agency (ANI), headed by Mr. Goga. In theory SARM, led by General Mayele, a native of the Equatorial Province who has earned a name for himself since the Shaba war, is responsible for military information and also for the loyalty of the army with respect to the chief of state. AND deals mainly with "intelligence" relating to civilians and has distinguished itself in its repression of militants from the Union for Democracy and Social Progress (UDPS), the opposition party. Its head is General Likulia, a jurist and university professor originally from Upper Zaire, who has just replaced Mr. Ngbanda, who had a particularly bad reputation. As for ANI, it deals with border security. Each of these security forces has its prisons, its network of informers, and its resources; putting aside the privileged members of the DSP, 90 percent of the resources of members of the security forces comes from different types of rake-offs and extortions. For example, AND often solves tax payment problems in its own way.

This week it was decided to strip all these security forces of some of their power to arrest and detain: the National Security Council, headed by Mr. Nimy, the new adviser to the head of state, has decided to abolish "administrative detention" and administrative relegation (exile without trial) and attempt to improve the safety of citizens.

According to AFRICA CONFIDENTIAL published in London, the DSP is said to be particularly well reinforced at the moment, whereas the regular army is said to be systematically disarmed; soldiers no longer have provisions and the bombs have been removed from fighter planes (the Mirage jets based at Kamina) while armored cars have been brought together at Camp Tshashi, the DSP's headquarters in Kinshasa. According to the British newsletter, Zaire is now said to be recruiting mercenaries, notably in South Africa, in order to beef up protection of the president.

The explanation for such precautions is the tense climate now prevailing in Zaire, where people are still talking about the 19 April crash of a Hercules C-130 flown by Colonel Mbo, the country's best fighter pilot who had been trained in France and who was reputed to be...ambitious. The plane was returning to Gbadolite full of civilian and military passengers as well as vehicles for presidential use. The plane exploded in flight shortly after takeoff from Kinshasa, as a result of what was described as pilot error. Some, however, are more inclined towards the sabotage theory.

* Violent Incidents, Students' Massacre Described

90AF0223A Brussels LE SOIR in French 25 May 90 p 9

[Article by Colette Braeckman: "How Some Incidents Degenerated Into a Massacre"; first paragraph is LE SOIR introduction]

[Text] In civilian clothes and with a password Mobutu's commandos arrived. They would be merciless.

The letters, phone calls, and travelers' reports with their news of student massacres in Lubumbashi have been coming in and confirming one another. And certain obscure points pertaining to how these events started have now been cleared up.

Everything began on Wednesday, 9 May, in the most ordinary way: some cars were stopped by groups of students on "Perestroyka Square." The rector's car was allowed to pass but a Peugeot-504 was ransacked, and when a third car drove up everything started: the passenger in the car, which belonged to the civil guard, proved to be Miss Marie-Rose Baramoto, the daughter of the much feared head of the civil guard. The students called the young woman names and she shouted back "Let this car by, you beggars." Several students then jumped on her as the car pulled away; she was badly beaten, stripped, and even injured. Certain students came to her rescue and took her to the house of one of her brothers. Next the civil guard car returned, students threw rocks, the driver fired in the air and, 300 meters away, three students were picked up and manhandled by the car's occupants. Tension mounted on the campus and one student was discovered warning the authorities with the help of a "Motorola," a sort of walkie-talkie much used in Zaire. Under pressure from his fellow students, he turned over the names of two of his fellow students who were also "informers." These informers,

nicknamed "the three boors," were then brought before the crowd in front of building A and thrown into a sort of pit near building 10. They were tortured and some students suggested pouring gasoline over them and burning them alive, as an example.

According to some witnesses, these students are supposed to have stated that they were part of a group of "student-soldiers" headed up by an officer that worked for the presidential squad. These students had weapons, walkie-talkies, and infrared binoculars; letters from the authorities were found in their rooms, even a congratulatory message from the president. But in particular, these student-soldiers stated they had been responsible for the disappearances of 23 of their fellow students. These admissions infuriated the students, who wanted to burn the "informers" alive but did not do so, as they lacked gasoline.

The day after this violence, Thursday the 10th, the campus was shut down, there were some brief demonstrations in town, and primary schools were evacuated, because even children were taking part in the disturbance.

On Friday the 11th, at about 0930 hours, students gathered next to building Z. Orders for nonviolent behavior were given and the students asked that their colleagues in Kinshasa not be punished for molesting public officials. They also asked the rector what law made it possible for certain students on campus to be armed. As they marched into town, students who were shouting "Mobutu no more" ran into soldiers, and the stone-throwing, the billyclub attacks, and the tear gas continued until 1700 hours. But in the early evening word spread that the commandos would seek revenge for their injured Ngbandi friends (from the Equatorial Province). As night fell there was an electricity blackout caused by the National Electricity Company (SNEL), in front of which a civil guard vehicle was parked.

At about 1900 hours a plane landed bringing commandos from the special presidential brigade, almost all dressed in jogging gear. The police officers surrounding the campus were ordered to leave and, according to some witnesses, their weapons were taken from them. Since it was dark, the students lit a big bonfire. All of a sudden a

group came out of the brush and made for the crowd. A stampede and hand-to-hand fighting ensued: the attackers had daggers that they plunged into the stomach of their enemies, and then the massacre continued in the [university] buildings. Some students' lives were saved thanks to some of their Ngbandi friends who recognized and defended them. In fact the commandos had lists arranged by where individuals came from: they let those from the Equatorial [Province], Shaba, and Upper Zaire go and immediately stabbed students from Kasai, Kivu, Lower Zaire, and Bandundu. The password was "lititi," for which the correct response was "mboka," which means literally "country grass" or perhaps "weeds."

Starting at about 2230 hours, the operation wound down between 0400 or 0500 hours the next morning and, before leaving, those the students called the "stabbers" shouted: "Let the brawl stop now that we've had our revenge, otherwise you'll see something worse than what's just taken place." The next morning students evacuated the campus with their personal belongings.

Ever since the campus has been in a state of shock, and during the following weekend, police worked to clear away traces of the killings. Since then the victims have been counted: 150, it is said in Brazzaville, and 50 in Zambia, according to reports, which have reached Brussels. As for the Belgian minister of foreign affairs, he has declined to get involved in "this macabre accounting." Ecolo believes the government can no longer support the Zairian Government, while Mr. Vandenbroucke, the chairman of the Socialist Party (SP), has suggested that the Belgian ambassador be recalled for consultations. On Thursday Mark Eyskens stated that the clause on respecting human rights in the Belgian-Zairian accords is not a "figure of style," adding that at Friday's meeting of the Council of Ministers he would ask that the impact of the recent massacre at the University of Lubumbashi on the Belgian-Zairian accords be looked into. Mr. Eyskens has already admitted that Belgian diplomats have confirmed there were serious incidents, with wounded and dead.

Furthermore Zaire has acknowledged one death in a student demonstration organized Wednesday in Mbuji-Mayi in the center of the country but has continued to state that there were no deaths connected with the events in Lubumbashi.

Liberia

Woewiyu Says Doe Must Leave, War To Continue

AB2606135290 London BBC World Service in English
0630 GMT 26 Jun 90

[From the "Network Africa" program hosted by Rick Wells]

[Text] The talks between the Liberian Government and rebel forces that were due to take place in Sierra Leone yesterday collapsed before they even began, with the rebel side not showing up. Well, Tom Woewiyu is the spokesman for the rebel Patriotic Front of Liberia [NPFL]. On the line from Abidjan, he told me what they were intending to do now:

[Begin recording] [Woewiyu] We intend to go ahead in this war.

[Wells] And what does that mean?

[Woewiyu] That means either Doe leaves by whatever means he can now. We are no longer offering him any opportunity as we did before to say that he could leave. If we can get him out, fine. If he can get himself out, fine. But he will be out some time very soon. Our people have gone into Sierra Leone and other countries and are suffering. And the more time we waste—we can go in to a table to discuss absolutely nothing—the more pain our people are going through.

[Wells] But surely, if you now carry on fighting, indeed, even launch an attack on Monrovia, the suffering will be even worse.

[Woewiyu] No, we do not think so because the time we have allowed—we have allowed almost a month and a half during which people have been leaving Monrovia. Now we see no activity inside the city except for a handful of people there with Doe. So the more we wait, the more our people are sitting in the rain and in football stadiums in Sierra Leone and other places, and he is sitting there buying time and talking empty [word indistinct]. [end recording]

Well to find out what impact all this is likely to have in Monrovia itself, here is Marco Werman:

[Begin Werman recording] The residents of Monrovia are concerned that peace talks between the rebels of the NPFL and the Samuel Doe government are not going to be resumed. A clear sign of this lies in the organization today of another peace march under the supervision of the Inter-Faith Meditation Committee, the same group that is at the center of the peace talks in Freetown, Sierra Leone. All the people in the Liberian capital are decidedly opinionated about the current deadlock. Some are calling for President Doe to step down from the executive, while others say the rebels lack any flexibility and are standing in the way of a peaceful end to the country's crisis.

Meanwhile, in Liberia's second city, Buchanan, rebels are patrolling the streets, armed with machine guns and waiting

eagerly for the order to march on Monrovia. It could be described as the calm before the storm in Monrovia. It is quiet in the Liberian capital, but that does not necessarily mean that all residents have the ways and means to clear out of town to seek shelter before what could end up by being a cloud burst. [end recording]

Government Team Said 'Plotting' Next Move

AB2606130690 Paris AFP in English 1243 GMT
26 Jun 90

[By Richard Nyberg]

[Text] Freetown, June 26 (AFP)—Liberian Government officials were Tuesday plotting their next move after rebels seeking to unseat President Samuel Doe failed to turn up at peace talks which had been set to resume here Monday.

National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) spokesman Tom Woewiyu late Monday said that the rebel delegation would not attend the talks in the Sierra Leone capital, which were adjourned on June 16, unless Mr. Doe resigned.

He said there was nothing to discuss and that the NPFL, led by fugitive former civil servant Charles Taylor, would now seek a military end to the six-month uprising and attack the capital Monrovia.

The announcement caught observers here by surprise, as the government delegation had arrived Sunday.

U.S. Embassy officials, hosts of the first round of talks which failed to come up with a ceasefire agreement, were ready to offer facilities again, while other arrangements were being made at a conference center.

Liberian Information Minister Emmanuel Bowier said he was not surprised by Monday's developments, adding that "all things are possible." He said the government would not "comment on rumors" or serve as "spokesmen for the National Patriotic Front."

The NPFL on Monday gave analysts more to think about by announcing details of an interim government and a 24-member national assembly with representatives from each of Liberia's 15 counties.

They also hinted that elections could be held by the end of the year. It was the first time the NPFL had outlined a political agenda for the post-Doe era. One Liberian observer said Mr. Taylor had until now kept his "political cards hidden."

Mr. Bowier said he would remain in Freetown until all the religious mediators who had invited the government to participate in the talks turned up to inform them if the NPFL representatives would arrive and whether the talks would go ahead as planned.

Reverend Canon Burgess Carr, the only member of the inter-faith mediating committee to arrive Monday on an over-booked flight from Abidjan, Ivory Coast, refused to comment on the day's events.

Government delegates said they would pursue their deliberations with "many parties" Tuesday as they awaited direction from Mr. Doe's office.

A source close to the mediating committee said despite good intentions on everyone's part, the current efforts for peace looked "hopeless."

One informed source said the first round of talks took place because the warring faction had found it difficult to turn down a bid for peace offered by religious leaders.

The government side met late into the night Monday with U.S. Embassy officials and members of the opposition United People's Party (UPP) to discuss a possible future political strategy.

The United States, with its Voice of America relay station untouched surrounded by rebels 20 miles (30 kilometers) from Monrovia and marines aboard four navy ships ready to evacuate Americans, has worked to "facilitate" the peace process.

More Than 4,000 Seek Shelter at VOA Compound

*AB2606145590 Paris AFP in English 1449 GMT
26 Jun 90*

[Text] Monrovia, June 26 (AFP)—More than 4,000 residents of the rebel-held town of Careysburg, northeast of here, have fled to the Voice of America (VOA) radio transmitter compound nearby, refugees arriving in the Liberian capital said Tuesday.

Rebels of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL), who Monday pulled out of scheduled peace talks with President Samuel Doe's government, were said to be in control of the Careysburg region and within 20 miles (30 kilometers) of the capital.

Reports from civilians who managed to flee said those on the VOA compound were without adequate food, water, and other basic commodities. They could not come to Monrovia for fear of being caught in cross-fire.

An independent newspaper meanwhile said Tuesday that suspected government troops had killed seven people in the Mount Barclay region on Friday after the rebels captured Careysburg on Thursday.

The DUKPA newspaper cited a survivor of the raid as saying that armed men ordered everybody out of their homes and accused seven people speaking the Gio and Mano dialects of being rebels. The seven begged for their lives but were led away and gunned down.

The armed men ransacked the victims' homes and ordered local people to load their looted possessions on to a pick-up truck. In a related development, Defence Ministry spokesman Captain David Batti on Tuesday said that more than 150 government soldiers of the Mano and Gio ethnic groups had been freed from jail.

The soldiers were among 500 soldiers army personnel detained here several weeks ago by defence authorities

for what they called "safety reasons." "I heard more than 150 of them were released," Capt. Batti said. Defence Ministry authorities had repeatedly told reporters they knew nothing about the detentions.

'March for Peace' Reported in Monrovia 26 June

*AB2606172790 London BBC World Service in English
1615 GMT 26 Jun 90*

[Text] There has been another march for peace in the Liberian capital, Monrovia. It comes at a time when Patriotic Front rebels have been closing in on the city and follows the announcement by the rebels that they are not going back to the Sierra Leone peace talks with the government until Samuel Doe has resigned as Liberia's president, and that the war continues. Robin White asked Carl Hene in Monrovia what the turnout was in today's peace march.

[Begin recording] [Hene] The turnout was approximately 16,000 persons.

[White] And where did they march to?

[Hene] Well, they marched from the Methodist Center in Sinkor up to the heart of the City of Monrovia. They were carrying banners saying: Save Liberia; Put Liberia [word indistinct]; Life is not cheap; We want peace in Liberia; and Don't kill innocent people, among other things.

[White] Were any people calling for the president to resign?

[Hene] Well, yes, the large crowd was calling on the president to resign in the interest of peace.

[White] And how did the authorities react to this protest today?

[Hene] Well, there was no arrest as far as I know. But there was tight security, apparently to avoid the march resulting into some violence or looting.

[White] But there was no attempt to disperse people who were calling for the president to resign.

[Hene] No, not at all. Not at all.

[White] Was there any sign of support at today's demonstrations in favor of the Patriotic Front?

[Hene] Well, no. No one really mentioned the name of the National Patriotic Front—that we support the Patriotic Front or we do not support them—or what not. What they were actually calling for was peace. They want peace in the nation; they want peace for everybody.

[White] What has been the reaction in Monrovia to the news that the Patriotic Front is not going back to the peace talks in Freetown, Sierra Leone?

[Hene] It has created panic; it has created fear, and a lot of people are worrying, because there were so many now hoping that the Freetown talks would have brought some good results in the interest of the nation and its people.

But that breakdown, the stayaway of the National Patriotic Front, caused a lot of panic yesterday.

[White] What do you think the next step is going to be now?

[Hene] Well, we do not really know. But what I do know is that some 10 professional organizations or groups have also organized another peace march for tomorrow. They include the Press Union; the Liberian National Students' Union; the National Teachers' Association; the Federation of Liberian Youth; the National Christian Students' Council; and the Liberian Youth Christian Students' Movement.

[White] And they will be marching tomorrow?

[Hene] Yes.

Unity Party Executive Calls for Resignation

AB2606180390 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
1710 GMT 26 Jun 90

[Text] The Executive Committee of the Unity Party [UP] has reaffirmed its position by calling on President Doe to resign. According to a UP release, issued this afternoon, the party said it is calling for the president's resignation in order to save the nation from further bloodshed as well as to restore peace, tranquillity and democracy to this land of liberty that once stood as a beacon of light of hope in Africa.

In the release, the UP executive committee says it observes the dilemma the country is facing, the gross human rights violation, the killings of innocent citizens, public harassment, the closure of schools, and a declining of the nation's economy among others.

Liberian Action Party's Demands

AB2606180090 Paris AFP in English 1711 GMT 26 Jun 90

[Text] Monrovia, June 26 (AFP)—The opposition Liberia Action Party (LAP) on Tuesday joined its voice to those demanding the resignation of President Samuel Doe, faced with a six-month rebel insurgency, as a means "to peace and tranquility".

An LAP statement said the departure of several government officials, including cabinet ministers, their deputies, legislators and heads of public corporations as well as the indefinite closure of schools was "a clear indication that the government has crumbled".

"In a nutshell, things have gone bad and the country is in disarray. The government has lost control over events in the country and the image of the nation under the Doe government is bleak," the statement charged.

The LAP statement also said that the continued presence in power of the Doe government does not "augur well for the restoration of peace and stability as well as a free and fair democratic process in Liberia".

On Monday, the opposition Liberian People's Party (LPP) called for the immediate resignation of Mr. Doe, who seized power in a bloody coup in 1980 and is currently seriously challenged by rebels of the National Patriotic Front (NPLF), led by former civil servant Charles Taylor.

The independent DAILY OBSERVER newspaper Tuesday called on Mr. Doe to resign and "go in peace". In an editorial entitled "Resign, Mr. President", the paper said "we seriously plead with President Doe to make good his promise that he is prepared to sacrifice anything to relieve the sufferings of his people".

The resignation of the president will be seen as a "master stroke" to save his country and its people from "further bloodbath, destruction, misery and hardship", the paper said.

The NPLF on Monday pulled out of scheduled peace talks in neighboring Sierra Leone because, according to a rebel spokesman, Mr. Doe had failed to meet the demands of the rebels.

Official 'Declines Comment' on NPFL Absence

AB2706120090 Freetown Domestic Service in English
2000 GMT 26 Jun 90

[Text] Following a BBC report yesterday that the Liberian National Patriotic Front [NPFL] will not attend the second round of the Liberian peace talks in Freetown, Liberia's Information Minister Emmanuel Bowier today declined to comment on the announcement as the Liberian Government delegation in Freetown had not yet received any official notification on canceling the talks. Mr. Emmanuel Bowier told SLENA [SIERRA LEONE NEWS AGENCY] that the peace talks were the initiative of the Liberia Council of Churches and that if there is reaction from the government, it is premature for him to react.

Meanwhile, a member of the Liberian church delegation, who is the episcopal bishop of New York, the Rev. Canon Burgess Carr, arrived in Freetown last evening.

In another development, the chairman of the United People's Party, UPP, of Liberia, Mr. Bachus Matthews, who also arrived yesterday to monitor the talks, described the radio report as disappointing and unexpected.

Group To Organize Peace March 27 June

AB2706082690 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
2036 GMT 26 Jun 90

[Text] A citizens' committee for peace and democracy in Liberia, grouping 16 civic and professional organizations in the country is staging a peaceful march tomorrow morning to present a statement to the National Legislature. Today, I spoke with the organization's spokesman, Gabriel Williams, who is also the secretary general of the Press Union of Liberia, and asked him what prompted the action.

[Begin recording] [Williams] The Press Union of Liberia is a [word indistinct] organization or, maybe, citizens' committee for peace and democracy in Liberia. You know, these organizations are 16 in number and they represent the Students' Union, professional bodies, and other civic organizations. Basically, it goes without saying that all of us know the problem in our country at this moment, and the critical point at which we have arrived. Tomorrow, we intend to petition the president and his government to resign in the [word indistinct] interest of peace and security.

[Unidentified reporter] Today, I was with the march the (?religious) people held, and there were little problems where soldiers lined the road from [name indistinct] to the Executive Mansion and, in fact, prevented the crowd from marching on the boulevard. Don't you think there will be similar things, even more intense tomorrow?

[Williams] Well, we are not worried about soldiers being in the street. They have always been there, and this is why we get into some of the problems that people are seeing from time to time. This is why our people are being subjected to this...[changes thought] type of intimidation and they have not been able to assert their rights. As you said, today the soldiers were lined up and they prevented the people from marching through the main boulevard. Tomorrow, we are not taking confrontation with the soldiers. We intend to march to the Capitol to present our statement to the speaker of the House. If they prevent us from doing that, we have other alternative routes that we intend to take and read out our statement, and make sure that we send copies of this statement to the president, to the speaker, and other relevant officials of government.

[Reporter] And, when is this marching starting?

[Williams] The march is starting at 0830 tomorrow on the (?field) near the (?Old) Maternity Center Building, right on Tubman Boulevard, Capitol Bypass.

[Reporter] And how many people do you envisage coming to this march?

[Williams] Well, we hope to see as many people as possible. All of Monrovia, wherever you are, we expect you to come out. This is the time we are supposed to come to assert our rights under the Constitution. Mothers, women, students, wherever you are—come out tomorrow, and try to show that you are concerned about the security of your country. If you all show that you can give us a [word indistinct], I will tell you that our country is on the brink of complete destruction. We have to come to let the president know that at this present time he has, in the interest of security, in the interest of the people of our country, to give way, so that further bloodshed and destruction could be prevented.

[Reporter] Now, we are talking about the resignation of the president here. But are we prepared to run the government when we have anarchy in the country?

[Williams] Well, as you know, this organization also has lawyers, that are on the body [as heard], and this is something that we have been discussing at all levels to ensure that there is no [word indistinct] in the wake of any reformation, as we are requesting. We have also considered the possibility of a transitional [word indistinct], and that is embodied in the statement that we will present to the president tomorrow. It may be worth saying that we have his in mind and we expect the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] to also understand our position. This is the view of the Liberian people.

[Reporter] We are talking about the resignation of the president. Does that include his government as well?

[Williams] Resignation of the government—you see, we have a very critical situation at hand. We have a force that...[changes thought] I mean I should be realistic, that is more powerful than what we all see now. So, all we have to do now is to let the NPFL [words indistinct] that yes, they have reasons. I mean, members of the NPFL are citizens of Liberia, and we believe that they have grievances, and this is the only way they can address their grievances [words indistinct], or the Liberian people will lose interest. They are working...[changes thought], this is the view, you know, of the people and they have to give consideration to that.

[Reporter] Now, Gabriel, you are appealing to all citizens resident in Monrovia and its environs to converge to the (?fie'd) next door to the (?Old) Maternity Building and converge to the Capitol tomorrow. With all these people coming—we expect tens of thousands of people—what mechanism have you employed, I mean, this organization drawn [words indistinct] together so as to ensure discipline in the crowd, so that people don't start looting and [words indistinct]?

[Williams] I have just returned from an executive committee meeting and we have discussed all these things. We know that in such instances, people, bad people have the tendency to come and spoil the situation. We may even have people who have other means, who might want to take advantage of any situation to make sure that our aims are not realized. So, we are taking every measure possible to ensure that the march is orderly, is more responsible, and the desire, or reason for which we are having it is realized. [end recording]

Doe Endorses Execution Recommendation for Soldier

*AB2706063290 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
2030 GMT 26 Jun 90*

[Text] President Samuel Kanyon Doe has endorsed the recommendation from the general court-martial board that Private James Grear be executed by firing squad tomorrow, Wednesday, June 27th at 10 AM. Private Grear was recently found guilty by the board for killing one [name indistinct] behind the (?city) recreation center in Sinkor. In a letter to Defense Minister Boimah Barclay today, Dr. Doe also endorsed the recommendation

that Private [name indistinct] be imprisoned for 10 years for killing a United States citizen last April.

Meanwhile, Defense Minister Barclay has warned that any military personnel taking the law in their hands will be made to face the full weight of the laws of the land. Minister Barclay reminds the military personnel that no one was above the laws of Liberia regardless of his status.

Further on March, Soldier Execution

*AB2706132890 Paris AFP in English 1314 GMT
27 Jun 90*

[By James Dorbor]

[Excerpts] Monrovia, June 27 (AFP)—Liberian soldiers opened fire here Wednesday to disperse demonstrators calling for the resignation of rebel-beleaguered President Samuel Doe in the second mass rally in two days.

The marchers were heading for the U.S. Embassy when the first shots were heard and sporadic gunfire later spread to other parts of central Monrovia. It was not immediately clear whether there had been casualties.

Earlier, it was reported that troops would stop the marchers going to the Capitol, seat of parliament, to hand in a Doe resignation demand to House of Representatives Speaker Samuel Hill. [passage omitted]

"Doe Must Resign!" read banners at Wednesday's demonstration, organized by several civil organizations, in what was clearly a more focussed protest than Tuesday's march.

Marchers sang: "Today, today, Doe come down! You like it, you don't like it, Doe come down! Doe come down today! How long must we cry, the power of the people is the greatest!" [passage omitted]

Mr. Doe, who seized power in a bloody coup in 1980, on Tuesday received a four-man delegation from the 16-nation Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). Liberian state radio said Wednesday.

The delegation, led by the Lagos-based organization's executive secretary, Abass Bundu, was also to meet other government officials, church leaders and politicians before leaving later Wednesday for Freetown.

Mr. Bundu said arrangements had been made for a meeting with rebel leader Taylor, an ex-civil servant who fled Monrovia in 1984, accused of embezzlement and who has recently been amnestied on that charge by Mr. Doe.

(An AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE reporter in Freetown meanwhile quoted well-informed sources as saying ECOWAS national leaders were discussing plans "to step in and rescue" the peace talks if the Liberian Inter-Faith Mediating Committee behind them could not bring the two sides back to the negotiating table.)

(The sources said the religious mediators "have their limitations," notably a lack of jurisdiction over military forces and an inability to impose economic pressure.)

(Reliable sources in Freetown also said Liberian church representatives there would meet a government delegation later Wednesday to discuss whether talks under their auspices could continue. Otherwise, ECOWAS would step in.) In a separate development here Wednesday, an Army private was executed by firing squad after Mr. Doe on Tuesday upheld the sentence of a court that found the soldier had murdered a civilian after a misunderstanding on a beach in April.

The execution of Private James Gear at the Barclay Military Training Centre here was watched by a large crowd and several local and foreign journalists.

Mr. Doe also upheld a 10-year jail term for Private Alphonso Kahn for the manslaughter in April of a U.S. national, Martin Joseph Millay, who drove past a security checkpoint.

Toops Open Fire on Demonstrators

*AB2706124290 Paris AFP in English 1231 GMT
27 Jun 90*

[Text] Monrovia, June 27 (AFP)—Liberian troops opened fire here Wednesday to disperse demonstrators calling for the resignation of President Samuel Doe in the second mass rally in two days.

The marchers were heading for the U.S. Embassy when the first shots were heard and sporadic gunfire later spread to other parts of central Monrovia. It was not immediately clear whether there had been casualties.

Earlier, it was reported that troops would stop the marchers going to the Capitol, seat of parliament, to hand in a Doe resignation demand to House of Representatives Speaker Samuel Hill.

On Tuesday, about 20,000 people turned out at a peace rally called by the Liberian Council of Churches (LCC), demanding an end to six months' civil war between government troops and rebels who have neared the capital.

The National Patriotic Front (NPFL) rebels, led by Charles Taylor, pulled out of a second round of peace talks with government officials Monday in the capital of neighboring Sierra Leone, Freetown.

A rebel spokesman said that until Mr. Doe stood down, there was nothing to talk about.

Christian, Muslim Groups Issue Joint Statement

*AB2606223990 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
2030 GMT 26 Jun 90*

[Text] The Christian and Muslim communities have issued a joint statement calling on government and the Patriotic Front [NPFL] to give prayerful consideration to the proposals for a peaceful settlement of the crisis in the country. The statement was read by Reverend Mary Smith Bushman at the Centennial Pavillion at the end of a peace march from the Methodist compound in Sinflow Town this morning.

[Begin Bushman recording] We deem it [words indistinct] to remind both the government of Liberia and the NPFL that as the nation goes through the trying and turbulent period which we now experience, no sacrifice is too great to restore a lasting and genuine peace to the land [words indistinct] and the love of material possessions by both sides. We continue to receive reports of harrassment of personal property, executions, and other atrocities against citizens in Monrovia, Bong Mines, Kakata, Rivercess and its environs, as well as in other parts of the country. The voice of the people continue to cry out loud against such inhumane and barbaric acts which are against the teachings of God Almighty and universally accepted human decency. We, therefore, call upon the Liberian Government and the NPFL to exercise utmost (?constraint) to avoid any continuing loss of lives and bloodshed as agreed by both parties in the joint communique issued at the conclusion of the first round of talks in Freetown, Sierra Leone. [end recording]

The statement then called for a peaceful resolution of the crisis and appealed to the United Nations and the U.S. and other peaceful countries to help solve the crisis.

[Begin Bushman recording] The people of Liberia, through the Christian community, as represented by the Liberian Council of Churches, the National Lutheran Council and the professional groups, once again appeal to the United Nations, the Government of the United States of America, and all peace-loving nations and friends of Liberia to directly intervene now to prevent further loss and destruction of life and property within our country. [end recording]

ECOWAS Delegation Arrives With Message

AB2706094490 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
0709 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] A four-man delegation from the Economic Community of West African States, ECOWAS, was expected to have delivered a special message to President Samuel Kanyon Doe. The delegation, which arrived at the James Spriggs Payne Airport yesterday, is headed by the executive secretary of ECOWAS, Dr. Abass Bundu. Members of the delegation also met with government officials yesterday, religious organizations, and leaders of political parties in the country. The leader of the delegation, Dr. Bundu, said arrangements were being made for him to meet with Charles Taylor of the National Patriotic Front in an attempt to resolve the current crisis in Liberia.

Operations Reportedly Suspended at Bong Mines

AB2706090490 Paris AFP in English 0755 GMT
27 Jun 90

[Text] Monrovia, June 26 (AFP)—The West German-run iron ore mining company, Bong mines, about 65 miles north west of here, has suspended operations because of "force majeure", company spokesman David Francfort said here Tuesday.

Mr. Francfort said Bong Mining Company (BMC) employees "will remain on the payroll without pay until at such time when the reason which necessitated the suspension of work no longer exists".

Rebels of the National Patriotic Front attacked BMC one month ago, and have since been in control of the area, preventing the company from operating.

The capture of Bong mines followed that of Liberia's largest mining company in northeastern Nimba County, Liberia Mining Company (LIMCO), and its ore shipping facilities at the port of Buchanan, 90 miles east of Liberia.

The cessation of activity in the mining sector and in the American-run Firestone plantation because of rebel activities have brought Liberia's ailing economy into total collapse.

Nigeria

*** Queuing Procedure in Elections Criticized**

34000750A Lagos THE GUARDIAN in English
19 May 90 p 10

[Text] The ambition of the National Transition Committee to plug every hole and ensure a free and fair election at all levels can hardly be faulted. Ironically however, this holy desire seems to be leading the body obviously into the path of electoral error. No other summation seems adequate to explain the committee's decision that elections into party offices at the ward level will be conducted by electors queuing up behind candidates of their choice. The winner of the election will be decided by the highest number of electors standing behind a particular candidate.

The reason adduced by the Transition Committee for this mysterious electoral procedure is that most of the electors at the ward level are illiterates who may not be able to identify the names of candidates and how to vote. This means in effect that the ballot is too sophisticated an electoral method for electors at this level, who incidentally form part of the great illiterate mass of voters at general elections. By adopting the Indian file procedure, the risk of disenfranchisement or wrongful casting of the vote would be obviated.

Nobody except the National Transition Committee is likely to be impressed by this argument. By having recourse to this antediluvian method of election, the committee has ab initio passed a vote of no confidence on the forthcoming general elections. The logic is straightforward: Since apparently most of the voters in the general elections who are illiterate would be unable to identify the names of candidates and how to vote, the election results cannot be trusted as a true reflection of the people's preferences.

More than this, the decision is also a mark of the committee's contempt for the intelligence of the common voter. Nevertheless, let the body explain to us how a people who

are judged incapable of casting their votes properly at the party ward polls would suddenly have acquired the arcane expertise required in a secret ballot when the general elections begin. And what efforts, pray, have the multitude of institutions and organs involved in the transition programme done to educate the electorate on how to vote? What are MAMSER [Mass Mobilization for Self-Reliance], NEC [National Electoral Commission], the Center for Democratic Studies (CDS) and the Transition Committee itself for, if they cannot perform an elementary function of this kind?

Besides, the Transition Committee's decision is, at the worst, an invitation to chaos. In wards where electors are many, it would be quite a task peacefully organizing voters behind their candidates. We can also expect that prolonged bitterness, bad blood, rivalry and suspicion will attend and follow these elections, capable of ultimately destroying the party's spirit de corps and entrenching a feuding spirit within it.

Yet, all this can be avoided by the simple method of the secret ballot. The committee's arguments against it remain unconvincing. Even if the reasoning were cogent, the evils pointed to are not irremediable. The Transition Committee should save us all an unnecessary headache.

*** Government To Review National Guard Decree**

34000750B Lagos *THE GUARDIAN* in English
20 May 90 pp 1-2

[Text] The wave of criticisms over the proposed National Guard appears to have compelled the Federal Government to withdraw the decree establishing it. The sticking points that touched off the furor are now to be removed.

Justice Ministry sources confirmed that the draft of the decree had been recalled, a clear indication that a reviews is underway. This logically will mean a delay in the formation of the security squad.

Besides, recent developments in the country may also delay its take-off as the government is believed to be appraising the country's security system for a general overhaul.

Government officials denied the Guard was planned for witch-hunting, stressing that its formation was borned out of a desire to strengthen the country's security network.

The Guardian gathered that the government, determined to rectify security lapses exploited by last April's abortive coup plotters, may have swung into action already.

Three weeks ago, the National Council of States which met to review the security situation in the country urged service chiefs to ascertain the implications of the abortive coup on their services and make recommendations.

This decision was meant to be a follow-up to the decision of the National Security Council meeting held a week earlier, barely 24 hours after the abortive coup. It was the contention of the security council then that a committee be set up to re-appraise the current security situation in the face of recent events.

Government sources explained that the decision to review the activities of the agencies did not amount to a loss of confidence or lack of faith in the numerous security outfits.

Earlier, a panel headed by a brigadier was set up, with the onerous task of investigating the abortive coup plot. Presidency spokesman, Col Anthony Ukpo said: "No trial will begin until after the panel has made its recommendations."

Also two weeks ago, the nation's highest ruling body the Armed Forces Ruling Council [AFRC] for six hours deliberated on the situation and the abortive coup. Although details of decisions were not available, there were hints that besides reviewing the measures taken since the coup, the AFRC may have decided on the modus operandi for dealing with the tricky security situation.

Since the abortive coup last month, calls have been made on the government for an urgent review of the security situation and reorganization of the various agencies. In the forefront of the call, was that of the Sultan of Sokoto, Alhaji Ibrahim Dasuki, who blamed the security services for the lapses.

President Ibrahim Babangida had last year set up the controversial National Guard to control crime and terrorism, but the closest it came to being operational was the adorning of its insignia by a select few of the police's mobile unit and the appointment of an unannounced top police boss as its head.

END OF

FICHE

DATE FILMED

5 July 1990

